

Religious Intelligencer.

THAT GOD IN ALL THINGS MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH CHRIST.—Peter

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WHOLE NO. 2542

DO IT NOW

Have you sent your subscription for this year? If so, you have our thanks. If the sending has been delayed, kindly forward it now. We much desire to hear from all our friends right away. Their promptness will greatly help us in the business management of the INTELLIGENCER, and will be much appreciated. Kindly attend to the matter at once.

NOTES AND GLEANINGS

The Amoor, the great stream of China and Siberia, is 1,500 miles in length, but for nearly nine months in the year is ice-bound.

New Brunswick contains 17,500,000 acres of which 10,000,000 have been sold, leaving 7,500,000 still under the control of the government.

The longest span of submarine cable in existence will be that between Vancouver and Fanning Island, 3,000 miles apart. The task of laying it will commence in January.

The Texas penitentiary board has decided to buy a 25,000 acre plantation and places all of the state convicts at work raising beet sugar.

In the province of Quebec large operators now establish pulp mills in connection with their saw mills and use up the refuse of their lumber and shingle in the making of pulp. There is a great economy in this system.

It is now coming to be the practice in the provinces westward of us to plant with forest trees all lands not fit for agricultural purposes. This is a far-sighted policy that ought to be adopted in all our provinces.

Prof. Coleman, of the School of Practical Science, Toronto, says the Dominion now ranks third in the list of gold producing countries \$27,000,000 worth having been produced in 1900. The total value of Canada's mineral products in 1900 reached more than \$63,000,000, or \$12 per head of population.

Under the Dispensary law in North Carolina, the State statistics show that the sales of intoxicating liquors have increased five times as much as has the population. Consequently, the liquor dealers are not crying out against the dispensary law like they are against prohibition. Of course not.

A man in St. Louis is trying to convince his fellow human beings that they ought to eat sand, because birds do and chickens do, and he is putting it in small bags and selling it at 25 cents a bag. The quantity to be eaten is a teaspoonful per day, mixed with water so that it may be easily swallowed. This genius circulates papers advocating the sand diet, and it is stated that he has made several arrests.

More people live to be centenarians in warm countries than in cold ones. The German empire, with 40,000,000 inhabitants, has 778 centenarians. France, with 40,000,000, has 213. England has only 146, and Sweden has 10. Norway has 5, Denmark 2, Spain 401, Switzerland none. Sarvia, with a population of 2,250,000 has 575 over one hundred years old.

As said by a correspondent of the Baltimore Sun that West Virginia is rapidly becoming more and more the Mecca of the negroes of the South. The climate of this state, as a whole, is congenial to this race, and the great coal and coke industries in operation almost every country, together with the extensive railroad construction being carried on, furnish ready, as well as lucrative, employment for negro laborers, of whom 15,000 are employed in the mines.

Years ago, when the Siberian railway was first begun, it was estimated to cost 350,000,000 rubles (35,000,000), but up to a year ago

that amount, plus 430,000,000 rubles had been spent; and it is represented by the Odessa correspondent of "The London Times" that the Russian official publications are keeping track of these facts, and there is reason to believe that the whole cost, when it is in perfect working order, will be over \$515,000,000.

LIFE IN THE WOODS.

No. I.

In my last letter I stated that I purposed accepting an invitation from Mr. J. J. Hale to visit his lumbering operations on the Tobique waters. I have made the visit, spending some three weeks on the trip, and am now back at my work again.

As many of your readers have never been in the woods and have little idea of the life, it may be of interest to them for me to write of it. I have not the ready pen, nor the fancy of "Thaddeus," who a few years ago made a similar trip and gave us so many interesting letters upon his visit; yet there are things I heard, saw and felt, of which I wish to say something in my own plain way.

My going away from my pastorate for a time was by the advice of my physician. For some weeks I had been in a very poor condition physically, scarcely able to keep my appointments. I was ordered to rest; bro. Parsons was secured as a supply; and Mr. Hale took me under his care for a trip. I left my work all behind me, and for the first time in my life took a genuine rest. True, I held service each Sabbath, and several week evenings in the camps, but I found a great difference between that and my regular work. It was a complete change of scene and action, and I have returned feeling thoroughly renewed.

I would not have believed that simple rest could do so much for one. I have learned this lesson—that it is very unwise for one to keep constantly at the mill, never having a release from the grind of duty and care. There is a sinful indolence, and there is also a sinful industry, and I am fearful that in this country many more are guilty of the latter than of the former.

To the churches of my pastorate, who insisted upon my going away, to bro. Parsons for his supply, and to Mr. Hale for his kindness I am certainly under much obligation.

In this letter I wish to write of life in the woods; in a later one I will write of our interest and of our brethren on the Tobique, many of whom I met. My first introduction to woods-life was at the Depot Camp. This is an establishment thirty-five miles from the nearest railway station, where the supplies are kept for the entire operation, which is no small affair, with over two hundred men and fifty to sixty horses to keep supplied, and each camp must always have a surplus of provisions for a week or ten days ahead, lest storms and bad roads should ahead the communication. From the depot "tote teams" are constantly on the road loaded with provisions. The nearest camp to the Depot is twenty-one miles, and the furthest away 35 miles. There are seven camps. As I watched the supplies going forward to these camps I began to understand something of what it meant to keep an army in the field, and to keep it constantly supplied. If it meant so much to keep this little army of two hundred men going, what must it be to keep Kitchener's two hundred thousand in an enemy's country cared for and no day without its provision. The Depot camp is in charge of Capt. Gil Perkins, of the 67th Regiment, and if the time ever comes when Canada shall have to put an army in the field Capt. Perkins is receiving a splendid training for future supply service; and I should certainly advise the powers that be that the genial Captain be given charge of the base of supplies, and be charged with keeping the lines of communication open. For ten years he has had charge of this department for the Hales, and knows his business thoroughly. Mr. Charles Love is Depot cook, and a better one it would be hard to find. After spending a short while at the Depot, on a clear, cold morning, with the stars in the sky, well wrapped in furs, behind "Black Chief," and with J. J. Hale at the lines, we start for a thirty-five miles drive straight ahead into the woods to Dickinson's camp.

Such a drive as that was. The Chief is a wonderful horse; he knows his business and is always ready. For the first hour, as we shaved trees, bumped against stumps, went pitching into cradle-knolls, at pretty nearly a three-minute gait, I simply held on to the seat, kept my eyes shut, and a good deal of the time held my breath, wondering whether the horse was running away or the driver was endeavoring to frighten me. But later I found it was nothing unusual that it was Mr. Hale's way of driving and that "Chief" knew what was expected of him and was doing it in splendid style. After a while I got my eyes open, began to breathe regularly and to enjoy it all. A sleigh built on ordinary lines would go to pieces in short metre, but these woods sleighs are specially constructed of steel, and it is marvellous what they go through and come out all right. To one who had never been in the woods there is a peculiar sense of loneliness that creeps into one's feelings. With nothing but woods all around, and no living person within call, one begins to comprehend what a "worm of the dust" man is, how much we are dependent upon one another, and how much too, we are our brother's keepers. I thought, if Adam had any conception of what a big place this earth was, he must have felt pretty lonesome in Eden, and how glad he must have been when he got a companion. And though she afterwards got him into a lot of trouble perhaps he did not regret it and preferred companionship with his kind, and even being in trouble, to being alone and being at ease. Verily "it is not good for man to be alone." Loneliness is the mother of melancholy and melancholy is the mother of decay and death.

J. B. D.

PLEBBY-SIGHTS AND RIFFY-RANDOMS.

BY MURPHY, WITH APOLOGIES TO MR. DOOLEY.

Just now, when there is so much talk of plebbies and referendums, the following, after the style of Mr. Dooley, is to the point. We are indebted to the Christian Guardian for it. It tells very well the game the politicians and the rum traffic men are playing:

"I say, Grogan, cud yez tells me what that game wuz ye played wid old Schmitt, when yez won from him tin times handrunnin'?"

"Yis, Finnegan, that is an illegant game entirely, and a sure winner, if yez can only get some wan to play wid ye and kape right on playin'. Its the yame of tossin' a coin to the tune of 'Heads I win, tails you lose.' I hear they are goin' to interjoece the game into the elections in Cannady."

"How cud they do that, Grogan?"

"It's this way, Finnegan. The temperance fannatics are out on a rampage. 'Cum out an' vote,' sez they, 'to stop drinkin'. Cum an' wid yer vote an' influence.' Thin the liquor men send word to their raysrepresentatives in parlement, Hiram Walker and Joseph Seagram, saying, 'What will we do wid these rampagin' fannatics?' And their raysrepresentatives send back word, 'Let the fannatics rage and rampage and git votes for prohibition, and while they're rampagin,' do yez on the quiet get votes for the likes of us. Thin it's votes again in flooence, and we hev the pull. Don't we make the laws, and enforce them, too, bedad?' Thin they all go out to vote on a Plebby-sight and a Riffy-random."

"What's them, Grogan? Is it like Appendy-sights?"

"No, indeed, Finnegan, they're not diseases, except of the body polytic! It's just a way to keep, the temperance fannatics wurrakin' an' wurrakin', an' votin' an' votin', like mad, widout doin' enny harm."

"They must be fond of votin', Grogan?"

"They are that, Finnegan. Whin they get a majority on a blebby-sight, thin it's time to have another vote on a Riffy-random."

"Did the fannatics get a majority, Grogan?"

"Ay course they did, Finnegan, lots of times; but they never yit got one big enough—an, belave me, they never will."

"And why not, Grogan?"

"Didn't I tell yez, Finnegan, that thin it was time for another vote on a Riffy-random."

"What's that?"

"That's a kind of vote to find out if the majority on the former vote is to be counted on the side it voted fur or on the side it voted against. It's a kind of recount, and its a kind of recount. There a joke, Finnegan, I thought out waitin' for a street car. I was thinkin' of the Premier of Manitoba. Ye see, Finnegan, he thought he would plaze the fannatics by givin' them some temperance legislation. Thin he sint it over to the Preevy Council wid a note, sayin, 'if this doesn't suit yez, ye can return it at my expinse, or throw it into your woodshed.' Ay course he expected it to come back wid a ticket on it marked 'N. G.'; but instid of that, back it came wid a tag saying it was 'O. K.' Sure, he was flabbergasted. 'I thing,' he sez, 'we need a Riffy-random to find out whether this law is intended for us or for arnymint. It's very arnymintal, entirely, it is, and I'd like to hev it framed, and send an illuminated copy to the Preevy Council, and to my frind, the Premier of Ontario. Use might spile its beauty. Toin, too, I think we might wait to see what Ontario is goin' to do wid our law."

"What do you think Ontario will do, Grogan?"

"That I don't know, Finnegan. Nayther does any wan else. Ontario is waitin' to see what Manitoba is goin' to do. 'Age before beauty,' says Manitoba. 'I don't like to take the pie out of yer mouth after ye've taken a bite,' sez Ontario. The Premier of Manitoba, he says, 'If the worst comes to the worst we'll have a Riffy-random.'"

"But, Grogan, the fannatics may get a majority on a Riffy-random."

"Yis, Finnegan, but as I told ye, they can never get a sufficient majority."

"What is that, Grogan?"

"That I don't know exactly, Finnegan, but an edditer is trying to find out from the preachers. Sum sez two-thirds, and some sez three-fifths, and some sez three-fourths, and some sez four-fifths, and the edditer is sittin' up nights strikin' the average."

"What would yez say yerself, Grogan?"

"I think, Finnegan, that the required majority should be always bigger than the wan that is actually voted and it wud be best to postpone the figgers till after the vote."

"I thought, Grogan, a majority was a majority?"

"That's where yez are all wrong Finnegan, as I've told ye. A majority is a majority, true for you, if its on our side; but if it is on the other side, thin it's an insufficient majority, and that makes it into a minority."

"Thin we're likely to win out, Grogan?"

"Likely, did yez say, Finnegan? Likely, indeed! Listen to me, Finnegan. If the majority is on our side, it'll be an insufficient majority, and we win agin. Thin, if the minority is on their side, they loose, av. course."

And if the minority is on our side it's better than an insufficient majority on their side, and they lose agin."

"It seems to me, Grogan, we cud win nine times out of tin."

"Ye're all wrong, Finnegan. We'll win tin times out of tin. Do yez see that now?"

"Bedad, Grogan, it's an' illegant way of votin'. True for ye, it's the game ye played wid Schmitt, 'Heads I win, tails you lose.'"

Three men killed, four probably fatally and two seriously injured, one freight train a complete wreck and another nearly so, are the results on steep grade near Altona, Pa., on Friday. Co. 2 of the second section of an east bound freight was lost, and it crashed into the rear of the first section. Ten cars, the caboose and two engines were wrecked.

Mrs. Henry Dague and her three-year-old son were fatally burned at Washington, Penn., Friday night, by the child pulling an oil lamp off the table. The husband was also badly burned while trying to rescue his child.

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society

'Rise up ye women that are at ease Isaiah 32: 9.

[All contributions for this column should be addressed to Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

A FIRESIDE CHAT WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE W. M. S.

FROM THE MISSIONARY OUTLOOK.

We who are banded together by the sacred ties of membership in our Woman's Missionary Society want to give loyal, efficient service to this cause.

With this thought in view, we felt we might with profit discuss for a brief time, the contributing forces requisite to a successful auxiliary meeting—in short, what constitutes an ideal auxiliary gathering.

In the first place, the ideal auxiliary is always carefully planned, and, as far as possible, every arrangement perfected before the hour of meeting. We do not think one has ever yet been held that was not the result of careful planning, earnest work and much prayer. No item, no matter however trifling should be forgotten or omitted that would be considered necessary to make up the perfect whole.

We think, the place of meeting is, by no means, an unimportant consideration. If the auxiliary be held in a gloomy, unattractive place, at once those attending will naturally feel a depression that would not exist were the surroundings cheery and attractive. If the church to which you belong has no bright little room—which at least can be well ventilated—then we would advise your meeting in the home of one of your members. This plan has been repeatedly tried and, we think, has always proved successful. It may be well at times to introduce the social element in the form of simple refreshments, the simpler the better. The half-hour allotted to this purpose has almost invariably served to bring the membership into closer acquaintanceship and more cordial relations.

The due consideration of the devotional part of the meeting is of the utmost importance. Never hurry through the devotional exercises nor, on the other hand, allow them to become unnecessarily lengthened. Have plenty of bright, inspiring music, appropriate to the occasion. As a rule, we think, short prayers by the members much more helpful than one or two long prayers. Let the prayer be specific and earnest, bearing in mind the special subjects allotted each month. In the ideal missionary meeting much stress should be laid upon the power and efficacy of prayer. Truly, "more things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

It is told of the saintly Gossner that during his life "he prayed open both hearts and pocket-books, and prayed mission stations into being." We believe much more might be accomplished through us had we only more practical faith in God as a covenant-keeper. So, if we would make our auxiliary meeting successful, let there be much prayer. Never allow anything to predominate or force into the background the spiritual elements which should prevail throughout all our gatherings.

The ideal auxiliary always opens promptly, each officer in her place at the appointed hour. The meeting should conclude as promptly. An hour and a half being usually quite long enough for the busy women who compose our membership.

The business part of the meeting should never be allowed to drag, but should be briskly conducted, and, as far as possible, according to parliamentary procedure.

In the ideal auxiliary should be found on the membership roll, every woman who is a member of the church to which the auxiliary belongs. If this were the case then there should be more women at our meeting than is customary. We are not despising the day of small things. No doubt many of us hold in tender remembrance some meeting or meetings composed of the "twos and threes" where God's promise was graciously verified; but there is something radi-

cally wrong in an auxiliary which boasts a long membership roll, and only a handful of women to convene together. There is enthusiasm in numbers; let us avail ourselves of it.

In the ideal auxiliary a spirit of good comradeship prevails. Time is freely given for the cordial hand-clasp and the friendly word, the stranger receives such a warm welcome that at once she feels at home, among sister workers, and realizes to the full that "one is our Father even Christ," and we missionary members, children of the same family, with joint interests.

Just one word about the programme. It should never be allowed to degenerate into merely an entertaining channel. If the Programme Committee has faithfully performed its work, it should be a most helpful part of the meeting. Every number should be replete with interest, as well as, convey much desired missionary information—for, of course, in the ideal auxiliary the programme will be of a strictly missionary character.

Much more might be said but time forbids. Let each member fill out this imperfect outline at her leisure.

If we forget all else, let us bear in mind the thought that no truly successful auxiliary meeting was ever held which did not aim at the exaltation of Christ. The spiritual element will always prevail in the ideal meeting of our society, and God and heaven will become more blessed realities because we have thus met. Let us be no longer content with low imperfect ideals. Let us raise the standard higher—even though we may never reach it, yet the higher our aim the greater will be our achievement.

PARLIAMENT.

The Parliament of Canada met on Thursday. There were the usual ceremonies. The Speech of the Governor General, which is really the government's announcement, mentioned the abundant crops of the year, the visit of the Duke and Duchess of York, the assassination of President McKinley, the census, wireless telegraphy, a proposed conference of Colonial leaders in London for the consideration of trade and other matters of intercolonial concern, and the proposed establishment of direct steamship service between Canada and South Africa.

Six new Senators took their seats. Eleven new members of the Commons were sworn in.

FRIDAY.—The consideration of the Address in reply to the Governor General's speech was begun. Mr. Campbell, the new member for West York, Ont., moved it, seconded by Dr. Beland. Mr. R. L. Borden followed, Sir Wilfrid Laurier replying. Then there were speeches by Messrs. Monk, and Maclean and the debate was adjourned.

—In the first year of Queen Victoria's reign, as reported by the British and Foreign Bible Society, 550,000 copies of the Bible were issued; in the last year of her reign, 5,074,000. In 1837 the Bible was printed in 135 languages and in 1900 in 373. Until very recently Arabia was closed and sealed against the word of God. Last year one missionary sold at Bahrain 932 Bibles in whole or in parts, all in Arabic and mostly to Moslems. The last closed South American country, the so-called republic of Ecuador, has at last opened its doors to Protestant labor, and colporteurs of the American Bible Society are braving the hardships and dangers of the new field. From 1863 to 1899 this state was by formal act of its legislature placed under the sovereign care of "the sacred heart of Jesus." It is now coming to know the word of Jesus. In India the Zenana and Bible mission employs Bible readers in 1,000 villages, who visit over 3,700 harems yearly with the Bible, to read to the secluded inhabitants of the women's quarters. A native Abyssinian has just returned to his own country with a new edition—in fact, a new translation—of the Bible, which he saw through the press in London. Such items, gathered from the wide field, remind one of the Scripture comment, "So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed."